

Message Text

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64

ACTION IO-13

INFO OCT-01 ARA-11 ADP-00 AF-10 EA-11 EUR-25 NEA-10 RSC-01

CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-09 H-02 INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-10

PA-03 PRS-01 SS-15 USIA-12 RSR-01 /148 W

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R 041727 Z APR 73

FM AMEMBASSY PANAMA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 7093

INFO USUN NEW YORK 0360

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE PANAMA 1874

E. O. 11652: N/ A

TAGS: PFOR UNSC PN

SUBJECT: PRESS TREATMENT OF SCALI TESTIMONY

SUMMARY. MOST PANAMANIAN MORNING DAILIES AND SOME RADIO STATIONS
PROMINENTLY FEATURE STORIES ON SCALI TESTIMONY. EDITORIAL
REACTION YET TO COME. END SUMMARY.

1. MAJOR MORNING NEWSPAPERS IN PANAMA FRONT PAGE WIRE SERVICE
(AP, UPI, EFE) STORIES ON SCALI TESTIMONY BEFORE HOUSE SUB-
COMMITTEES. FEATURED IN ALL STORIES IS SCALI ASSESSMENT THAT
SOVIETS, CHINESE, AND YOGOSLAVS INFLUENCED PANAMA TO MAINTAIN
HARD LINE AND FORCE U. S . TO VETO.

2. STORIES ALSO FEATURE RECORD OF TACK' S " ONE HUNDRED EIGHTY
DEGREE TURN" IN NEGOTIATIONS WITH U. S. ON THE DRAFT RESOLUTION
AND SCALI' S DESCRIPTION OF " THE INCIDENT IN WHICH HE RECEIVED
A MESSAGE FROM A PANAMANIAN NATIONAL GUARD COLONEL SHORTLY
BEFORE THE VOTE ON THE SC RESOLUTION."

3. A PROMINENT POINT IN UPI STORY FRONT PAGED BY GOVERNMENT-
CONTROLLED MATUTINO IS SCALI QUOTE " I BELIEVE THE RESULT OF THE
MEETING IS THAT THE UN HAS MADE MORE DIFFICULT OUR BILATERAL
RELATIONS WITH PANAMA, POSSIBLY TO THE POINT OF CAUSING A REVERSE
IN THOSE RELATIONS."

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4. WIRE SERVICE MATERIAL ON SCALI TESTIMONY BROADCAST ON SEVERAL LOCAL RADIO STATIONS MORNING APRIL 4. RADIO IMPACTO (INDEPENDENT, HIHGLY NATIONALISTIC) SAW SCALI TESTIMONY AS EVIDENCE OF WHY LATIN AMERICAN SHOULD PROCEED TO PROTECT ITS INTERESTS OUTSIDE THE FRAMEWORK OF U. S .- DOMINATED OAS.

5. COMMENT: WITH TORRIJOS CONTINUING HIS CONSULTATIONS IN THE PROVINCES AND TACK PREPARING TO DEPART APRIL 5 FOR THE OAS/ GA REPORTEDLY TAKING WITH HIM PROPOSALS FOR THE REORGANIZATION OF THE OAS, STORIES ON SCALI TESTIMONY WILL PROVIDE MATERIAL FOR EDITORIAL COMMENT WHICH WE WILL REPORT AS IT APPEARS.
SAYRE

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*** Current Handling Restrictions *** n/a

*** Current Classification *** LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts:
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 04 APR 1973
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: thigpegh
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1973PANAMA01874
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: n/a
Errors: n/a
Film Number: n/a
From: PANAMA
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1973/newtext/t19730433/aaaahpix.tel
Line Count: 80
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE
Office: ACTION IO
Original Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators:
Previous Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: n/a
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: thigpegh
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 03 OCT 2001
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <03-Oct-2001 by elyme>; APPROVED <31-Oct-2001 by thigpegh>
Review Markings:

Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
30 JUN 2005

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: <DBA CORRECTED> gwr 971125
Subject: PRESS TREATMENT OF SCALI TESTIMONY SUMMARY. MOST PANAMANIAN MORNING DAILIES AND SOME RADIO STATIONS PROMINENTLY FEATURE STORIES ON SCALI TESTIMONY. EDITORIAL REACTION YET TO COME. END SUMMARY.
TAGS: PFOR, PN, UNSC
To: IO
SECSTATE WASHDC
USUN NEW YORK
Type: TE
Markings: Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005